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IDENTIFIERS Ethiopia

ABSTRACT

The materials status report for Amharic, the dominant language of Ethiopia, is one of a series intended to provide the nonspecialist with a picture of the availability and quality of texts for teaching various languages to English speakers. The report consists of: (1) a brief narrative description of Amharic, the areas where it is spoken, its major dialects, its writing system, points of difficulty for the English-speaking learner, usable texts, availability of instructional programs, linguists who have worked on the language, native speakers, and other information of use to the individual planning a course in the language; (2) a bibliography of materials, categorized as basic level teaching materials, advanced level teaching materials, refresher/maintenance materials, reference materials, and dictionaries, according to evaluators' judgment of their best use in classes today rather than according to the author's intentions; and (3) individual materials evaluations each consisting of a general description (including publication information), an overview of the contents, statements about the quality of the language used, and a form on which the general text quality (language and presentation) is evaluated. The evaluations are made by native speakers and linguists recognized for their knowledge of the language. (MSE)

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ED262616

Language/Area Reference Center

Materials Status Report

AMHARIC

November, 1985



Center For Applied Linguistics
1118 22nd Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20037

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FL015285

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Materials Status Reports - General Description

This Materials Status Report is one of forty-one prepared by the Language and Area Reference Center, Center for Applied Linguistics, for the members of the Interagency Language Roundtable, under Contract No. 1735-507041 between CAL and the Foreign Service Institute, Department of State.

The purpose of the reports is to provide the non-specialist with a picture (as of 1985) of the availability and quality of texts teaching the language(s) to English speakers. Reports have been prepared for the following languages:

Afghan Persian (Dari)	Bengali	Indonesian	Sinhalese
Afrikaans	Berber (all dialects)	Kongo	Somali
Amharic	Bulgarian	Kurdish	Shona
Arabic/Libyan	Burmese	Korean	Slovak
Arabic/Saudi	Cambodian	Lao	Tagalog
Arabic/Gulf	Czech	Malay	Thai
Arabic/Sudanese	Dutch	Mongolian	Tigrinya
Armenian	Finnish	Ngala	Uigur
Azerbaijani	Hausa	Pashto	Vietnamese
Baluchi	Hindi	Portuguese	Xhosa
			Zulu

The Materials Status Reports consist of:

1. A one- or two-page narrative description of the language, the areas where it is spoken, its major dialects, its writing system, points of difficulty for the English-speaking learner, usable texts, availability of programs, linguists who have worked on the language, native speakers, and other information of use to the individual or agency planning a course in the language.

2. A bibliography of materials, grouped as follows: Basic Level Teaching Materials; Advanced Level Teaching Materials; Refresher/Maintenance Materials; Reference Materials; and Dictionaries. The terms "basic level" and "advanced level" are defined by the government-wide proficiency levels: materials bringing the student to proficiency level 2 in speaking and/or reading are categorized as "basic", whereas materials bringing the student to levels higher than 2 are categorized as "advanced". The dictionaries listed are bilingual dictionaries with English as one of the languages. Materials are categorized according to our evaluators' judgment as to their best use in classes today, and not according to the authors' intentions; e.g. a good traditional grammar-translation text will be categorized as reference, rather than as basic teaching materials.

All materials known to us are listed in the bibliography. For the more uncommon languages, e.g. Uigur, all sources have been evaluated (if we were able to find them). For the more common languages, e.g. Finnish, we did not evaluate pre-World War II materials except for widely-acknowledged classics. Unevaluated materials are listed alphabetically by author at the end of the bibliography.

3. Individual materials evaluations for each of the texts listed in the bibliography. A particular evaluation consists of a general description, including publication information, an overview of the contents, and statements about the quality of the language used; a "meta-criteria" form by which the general quality of the text, in terms of language taught and overall quality of presentation, are evaluated. More specific information is presented, on following forms, for those texts which have been judged to be of reasonable quality. The evaluations have been made by native speakers of the languages, and by linguists/language teachers recognized for their knowledge of the languages.

We have discovered, in the process of developing the Materials Status Reports, that the same set of materials will frequently appear under different editions and reprintings, and also under different titles, different publishers, and even different authors. In these cases, we generally choose the most recently appeared set for evaluation, and discuss the publication history on the description page of the individual evaluation. Occasionally, we are aware of later editions from the one we have access to; the existence of the later edition is also mentioned on the description page.

The Materials Status Reports are available from the ERIC Document Reproduction Service.

Language, dialects, standards. Amharic is the dominant language of Ethiopia. Dialect differences exist for the most part between urban and rural varieties; all dialects are mutually intelligible. The Addis Ababa dialect is the well-established spoken and written standard. Amharic is related to Arabic and Hebrew, but not closely.

Writing system. Amharic is written in a syllabic script, written left to right, with no sub- or super-scripts. The alphabet is well-established; it has been used to represent Amharic for several centuries.

Production of written language. Amharic typewriters exist - some in this country. The best models are those made by the Japanese. Typesetting is possible, but prohibitively expensive. There has been discussion in university circles of developing an Amharic type font for use with computer-based materials, but one has not been produced yet.

Difficulty for English-speaking learners.

Phonology: Presents no special problems. The only problematic segments are the glottalized consonants; otherwise sound system does not differ radically from English.

Syntax: Presents the same types of problems as Turkish or Japanese. Word order and clause formation very different from English.

Vocabulary: Very difficult. Virtually no cognates with English.

Writing system: Initially difficult, but systematic and representational of spoken language.

Usable existing texts. There are several, the best of which are:

Beginning level: Barton, Amharic Fundamentals (oral and reading skills)
Leslau, Amharic Textbook (oral and reading skills)
Leslau, Amharic Conversation (oral and reading skills)
FSI Amharic Basic Course (oral and reading skills)

Advanced level: Eadie, Amharic Reader
Ullendorff, Amharic Chrestomathy

Student dictionaries: Mosback, Amharic Dictionary (not evaluated)
Leslau, Concise Amharic Dictionary
Leslau, English-Amharic Dictionary

Teacher reference: Abraham, Amharic Principles (morphology)
Armbruster, Initia Amharica (historical value)

Electronic: none; tapes accompanying Barton, Amharic Fundamentals are good, but unavailable

Existing programs, classes. At FSI; capability at DLI; capability at Harvard, Columbia, Michigan State, Northwestern, Chicago, SUNY-Buffalo.

Native speaker availability. Numerous in U.S. Several native Amharic-speaking linguists, among them Dr. Hailu Fullas Hailu (Washington, D.C.) and Mulugeta Seyoum (Washington, D.C.)

Linguist resources. Wolf Leslau, UCLA; Marvin Bender, Southern Illinois University; Grover Hudson, Michigan State University; Robert Hetzron, University of California at Santa Barbara; Abraham Demoz, Northwestern.

Basic Level Teaching Materials

Barton, Donald, Taddese Beyere, Teshome Habte-Gabrial, and Larry Prestwick. Fundamentals of Amharic, Rev. ed. 3 vols. Salt Lake City, UT: Peate Corps Program, University of Utah, 1967.

Cooperative Language Institute of Ethiopia. A Guide to Learning Amharic, Rev. Ed. Addis Ababa: Cooperative Language Institute of Ethiopia, 1965.

Leslau, Wolf. An Amharic Conversation Book. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 1965. [PJ9213.L4] [169p]

Leslau, Wolf. Amharic Textbook. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz; Berkeley, Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1968. [PJ9213.L42] [674p]

Meressa, A. Say What You Want In Amharic. Addis Ababa: Artistic Printers, 1968.

Obolensky, Serge, Debebow Zelelie and Mulugeta Andualem. Amharic, Basic Course, Units 1-60. Washington, DC: Foreign Service Institute, 1964-65. [PJ9213.02] [1054p]

Advanced Level Teaching Materials

Eadie, J.I. An Amharic Reader. Cambridge, England: University Press, 1924. [PJ9214.E2 1924] [278p]

Kebede, Mulugeta, and John D. Murphy. Amharic Newspaper Reader. Kensington, MD: Dunwoody Press, 1984. [iv, 372p]

Ullendorff, Edward. An Amharic Chrestomathy: Introduction, Grammatical Tables, Texts, Amharic-English Glossary. 2nd ed. London: School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 1978. [PJ9214.U4 1978] [141p]

Refresher/Maintenance Courses

None.

Reference Materials

Abraham, Roy Clive. The Principles of Amharic. Ibadan, 1968. [PJ9213.R2 1968] [249p]

Reference Materials, cont.

Armbruster, Carl Hubert. Initia Amharica; An Introduction to Spoken Amharic. Part I: Grammar. Cambridge, England: The University Press, 1908. [PJ9213.A7]

Isenberg, Karl Wilhelm. Grammar of the Amharic Language. London: Church Missionary Society, 1842.

Leslau, Wolf. An Amharic Reference Grammar, Vols. I-III. Los Angeles: Department of Near Eastern and African Languages, U. of California, 1969.

Schramm, Gene M. A Practical Course in the Amharic Language. No. C/2. Washington, D. C: National Security Agency, 1953.

Sutton, Charles. Guidelines for Amharic Study. Debre Zeit: Peace Corps?, 1968.

Sutton, Charles. PCV's Handy Guide to Amharic Verbs. Debre Zeit: Peace Corps?, 1968.

Titov, Evgenii Grigorevich. The Modern Amharic Language. Moscow: Nauka Publishing House, Central Department of Oriental Literature, 1976. [119p] [PJ9211.T513]

U. S. Peace Corps. Amharic Language Materials Given to the Ethiopia Trainees, Appendix D. Undated typescript.

Woldegabir, Semere. Amharic for Foreigners. Rev. ed. Addis Ababa: n.p., 1969.

Dictionaries

Mosback, G. P. and Amsalu Aklilu. English-Amharic Dictionary. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: Oxford University Press, 1973. [311p]

Armbruster, Carl Hubert. Initia Amharica: An Introduction to Spoken Amharic. Part II, English-Amharic Vocabulary with Phrases. Cambridge, England: The University Press, 1908. [PJ9213.A7]

Armbruster, Carl Hubert. Initia Amharica: An Introduction to Spoken Amharic. Part III, Amharic-English Vocabulary with Phrases, Vols. 1 and 2. Cambridge, England: The University Press, 1908. [PJ0213.A7]

Isenberg, Karl Wilhelm. Dictionary of The Amharic Language. In two parts. Amharic and English, and English and Amharic. London: Printed for the Church Missionary Society, 1841. Ann Arbor, MI: University Microfilms, 1971. [PJ9237.E718 1971] [215,218 p on double leaves]

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AMHARIC

Dictionaries, cont.

Leslau, Wolf. Amharic-English and English-Amharic Vocabulary. Compiled for The Peace Corps Training Program for Ethiopia. Los Angeles: Regents of The University of California, 1963. [PJ9237.E7L4]

Leslau, Wolf. Concise Amharic Dictionary: Amharic-English: English-Amharic. Wiesbaden: O. Harrassowitz, 1976. [PJ9237.E7L424] [538p]

Leslau, Wolf. English-Amharic Context Dictionary. Wiesbaden, West Germany: Otto Harrassowitz, 1973. [First published as An English-Amharic Dictionary of Everyday Usage, LA, 1968] [ED012 044/045]

Electronic Materials

None.

Materials Not Found

Alone, J. P. H. M. and D.E. Stokes. The Alone-Stokes Short Manual of the Amhari Language (with Vocabularies), 4th ed. London: Macmillan and Co, Ltd., 1946. (unavailable)

Beyene, Taddese. Amharic and English Segmental Phonemes: A Contrastive Study. MS Thesis, Georgetown University, 1965. (unavailable)

Beyene, Taddese. Aspects of the Verb in Amharic. PhD. Thesis, ? University, 1973. (Unavailable)

Frydenlund, Marie. Amharic for Beginners. Addis Ababa: Norwegian Lutheran Mission Language School, 1967. [184p] [PJ9211.F7] (Miscatalogued at the Library of Congress; unfindable)

Amsalu Aklilu and G.P. Mosback. English-Amharic Dictionary. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: Oxford University Press, 1973. [311p] (Unavailable, but recommended as usable)

Davies, D.M. and Ester Fancher Lister. A Beginner's Amharic Grammar. Rev. 1952. Washington: ?, 195-. [PJ9213.D3 1952z] [70p] (Unavailable)

Dawkins, C.H. The Fundamentals of Amharic. Rev. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: Sudan Interior Mission, 1969. [PJ9213.D33 1969] [138p] (Unavailable)

Ullendorff, Edward. The Challenge of Amharic. London: School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 1965. [PJ9207.U4] [22p] (Unavailable)

Zenghisgher, Demma. Combined Grammar, Amharic and English. Addis Ababa, 1961. (Unavailable)

INDIVIDUAL MATERIALS EVALUATION

Basic Course Materials

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Barton, Amharic Fundamentals

Barton, David, Coordinator. Fundamentals of Amharic (Revised Edition).
Peace Corps, University of Utah, 1967.
(Three volumes)

Specific language/dialect taught: Addis Abbaba dialect of Amharic

Type of text: Basic Level Teaching Materials

Publication information: not formally published. Developed at the University of Utah for the Peace Corps. Sample at CAL.

Intended users: beginning English-speaking students of Amharic

Format: Three books, with accompanying tapes

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: audio-lingual

Presentation of language: in phonetic transcription in first two volumes.
Amharic script is presented in Vol. 3.

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: good for a typed text

Editorial quality of English: excellent; some misprints

Overall organization of text:

- Vol. 1: Pronunciation presentation, minimal pair exercises of different kinds.
Unit I - III: lessons on dialogues, with accompanying lists of vocabulary glossed into English. One grammar point per lesson is explained and drilled.
- Vol. 2: Units IV - VII: same as in Vol. 1
- Vol. 3: Unit VIII: longer dialogues and conversations, without exercises.
Unit IX: introduction to Amharic writing system, with syllabary and texts paralleling orally-presented material in previous units.

Vocabulary areas covered: general newcomer situations, daily life in Ethiopia

General comments:

CPT Page Label: AMHBARTAI

LARC staffer: BBR

Amharic
(lg)
Boston: Amharic Fundamentals
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?	☒ ☒ ☒			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒		

• Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☒
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: This book was intended to be used as an oral-aural-visual language teaching book.

Evaluator: H. F. HAILEU

Date: 6/13/85

Anderson
 (18)
Boston, Anderson Fundamentals
 (text)

BASIC COURSE MATERIAL EVALUATION

Areas in which the materials contribute
 to training to Proficiency Level 2:

	Oral			Reading		
	Y	S	N	Y	S	N
Development of ability to use the language in appropriate contexts	/			/		
Presentation, explanation of basic grammatical structures	/			/		
Development of accurate pronunciation	/					
Development of automaticity, fluency	/			/		
Development of appropriate range of vocabulary	/			/		
Presentation of cultural and functional information		/			/	
Development of encoding, decoding skills (in non-roman alphabets)				/		
Development of basic reading skills				/		
				Y	S	N
Do the materials give special attention to phonological aspects of the language which are likely to be difficult for the English speaker?	/					
Do the materials give special attention to grammatical aspects of the language which are likely to be difficult for the English speaker?	/					
Do the materials present non-linguistic information (e.g. gestures, taboos) necessary for appropriate linguistic behavior?			/			
Do the materials include guides for teaching?		/				
Does implementation of the materials provide students with opportunities to hear, imitate and use the language?	/					
Are the materials to be learned broken down into appropriate segments which students can handle without undue fatigue or strain on their attention span?	/					
Are previously-learned items of structure, vocabulary and function overtly recycled in later units or lessons?	/					

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Basic Course Materials Evaluation - 2

Amharic
(1g)
Bascom Amharic Fundamentals
(text)

	Y	S	N
Do the materials appropriately integrate the use of English in class?	☒	☐	☐
Are the materials likely to be visually appealing to the student?	☐	☒	☐
Do the materials expose students to language material above their momentary level?	☒	☐	☐
Do the materials enable the student to develop coping skills to handle language material above their momentary level?	☒	☐	☐
Do the materials include a wide range of learning activities for the student?	☐	☐	☒
Are the materials considered successful by current users, if any?	NA		
In presenting the language, do the materials meet a variety of student needs, including affective and intellectual needs?	☐	☒	☐
Are lessons in the materials organized around functions to the exclusion of grammar?	☐	☐	☒
Are lessons in the materials organized around grammar to the exclusion of functions?	☐	☐	☒

Comments: *The book is among the better ones of existing Amharic language teaching books.*

Evaluator: *H. F. HALU*

Date: *6/13/85*

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Coop. Lg. Institute, Guide to
Amharic

Cooperative Language Institute of Ethiopia. A Guide to Learning Amharic. Rev. ed. Addis Ababa: Cooperative Language Institute of Ethiopia, 1965.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: beginning course

Publication information: out of print. Cooperative Language Institute of Ethiopia is a group of missionary organizations. LC No. PJ 9213.C6 1956. Sample at CAL.

Intended users: beginning missionary students of Amharic

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: SIL/Nida audio-lingual

Presentation of language: in Amharic script, no transcription

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: excellent (although handwritten)

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

- 180 short lessons, each with I. Listening practice (taped passages with instructions to the student, guides for student work with an informant)
- II. Assimilation. Various drills, exercises, etc., with tapes and with an informant. III. Comprehension (grammar and cultural notes). Lessons provide a variety of experiences, explanations, and exercises for the student

Vocabulary areas covered: Christian and biblical terminology, general cultural concerns

General comments: Book is highly informal in tone, with words of encouragement (which sometimes descend to nagging) to student.

CPT page label: AMHCOOPAL

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Coop. Lg. Institute, Guide to Amharic
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	/			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?			/	
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	•	•	/	

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	
Advanced Courses	
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	
Reference Materials	
Dictionaries	

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: The book is ill-conceived, ill-organized
and somewhat confusing.

Evaluator: H. F. HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Leslau, Amharic Conversation

Leslau, Wolf. An Amharic Conversation Book.
Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 1965.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, Addis Ababa dialect

Type of text: beginning text

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ9213.L4. Available at Georgetown University Library

Intended users: intermediate students (university) of Amharic

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: none

Presentation of language: standard Amharic script

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: excellent

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

30 conversations involving an American couple and Ethiopians in various newcomer situations

Conversations are given in standard Amharic script, with idiomatic English translations. Sentences widely different from English are given literal translations in footnotes. Conversations are designed to present idiomatic Amharic, and also to present information on Ethiopian life and culture

Vocabulary areas covered: newcomer concerns, cultural topics

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHLES LD

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Lesbian Amharic Conversation
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of				
a. fulfillment of text goals?	☒			
b. clarity of organization?	☒			
c. lucidity of presentation?	☒			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒		

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☒
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: Useful introduction to aspects of urban (especially
Addis Ababa) life.

Evaluator: H. Fuller HAILU

Date: 6/20/85

BASIC COURSE MATERIAL EVALUATION

Areas in which the materials contribute
 to training to Proficiency Level 2:

	Oral			Reading		
	Y	S	N	Y	S	N
Development of ability to use the language in appropriate contexts	/			/		
Presentation, explanation of basic grammatical structures			/			/
Development of accurate pronunciation		/				
Development of automaticity, fluency	/			/		
Development of appropriate range of vocabulary	/			/		
Presentation of cultural and functional information	/			/		
Development of encoding, decoding skills (in non-roman alphabets)				/		
Development of basic reading skills				/		

	Y	S	N
Do the materials give special attention to phonological aspects of the language which are likely to be difficult for the English speaker?		/	
Do the materials give special attention to grammatical aspects of the language which are likely to be difficult for the English speaker?			/
Do the materials present non-linguistic information (e.g. gestures, taboos) necessary for appropriate linguistic behavior?		/	
Do the materials include guides for teaching?			/
Does implementation of the materials provide students with opportunities to hear, imitate and use the language?	/		
Are the materials to be learned broken down into appropriate segments which students can handle without undue fatigue or strain on their attention span?	/		
Are previously-learned items of structure, vocabulary and function overtly recycled in later units or lessons?	/		

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Basic Course Materials Evaluation - 2

Amharic
(lg)
Leslau, Amharic Conversation
(text)

Do the materials appropriately integrate the use of English in class?

Y	S	N
		✓

Are the materials likely to be visually appealing to the student?

	✓	
--	---	--

Do the materials expose students to language material above their momentary level?

✓		
✓		

Do the materials enable the student to develop coping skills to handle language material above their momentary level?

Do the materials include a wide range of learning activities for the student?

✓		
---	--	--

Are the materials considered successful by current users, if any?

No		
----	--	--

In presenting the language, do the materials meet a variety of student needs, including affective and intellectual needs?

	✓	
--	---	--

Are lessons in the materials organized around functions to the exclusion of grammar?

✓		
		✓

Are lessons in the materials organized around grammar to the exclusion of functions?

Comments: The materials are organized around functions in
urban setting. The conversations are simply structured but
idiomatic and natural. In brief, the materials can readily
used in teaching Amharic. The conversations can be translated
in a classroom situation.

Evaluator: H.F. HAILU

Date: 6/26/85

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

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Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Leslau, Amharic Textbook

Leslau, Wolf. Amharic Textbook. Wiesbaden:
Otto Harrassowitz, 1967. 674 p.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, Shoa/Addis Ababa dialect

Type of text: beginning text

Publication information: short version of Leslau's Peace Corps Training Materials
1985 price _____. Copy at CAL.

Intended users: beginning students of Amharic

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional approach, structural
terminology

Presentation of language: in traditional Amharic script, and transcription

Physical quality of book: excellent

Editorial quality of target language: *excellent*

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

Introduction: presentation of the sounds of Amharic, and the alphabet
Lessons 1 - 50: presentation of morphology and syntax, presentation by
grammatical point. Examples given in early lessons in
Amharic script, then transcription, then translation.
Lessons contain exercises (some translation from one lan-
guage into the other).

Amharic-English Vocabulary: Amharic words, with English glosses; phrases
containing head word, with English translations

English-Amharic Vocabulary: English words, Amharic equivalents

Tables: syllabary charts, grammatical paradigms (no translations)

Index of the Grammatical Features

Index of Amharic Function Words

Vocabulary areas covered: non-specific

General comments: better as a reference grammar....

CPT page label: AMHLESLC

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg) Leshan: Amharic Textbook
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of				
a. fulfillment of text goals?	☒			
b. clarity of organization?	☒			
c. lucidity of presentation?	☒			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒		

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☒
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: One characteristic feature of Leshan's book is the use of structural similarity, and not traditional order, of the symbols of the Amharic alphabet (a syllabary) in teaching reading in Amharic

Evaluator: H. Fuller HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

BASIC COURSE MATERIAL EVALUATION

Areas in which the materials contribute
 to training to Proficiency Level 2:

	Oral			Reading		
	Y	S	N	Y	S	N
Development of ability to use the language in appropriate contexts	/			/		
Presentation, explanation of basic grammatical structures	/			/		
Development of accurate pronunciation	/					
Development of automaticity, fluency	/			/		
Development of appropriate range of vocabulary	/			/		
Presentation of cultural and functional information		/			/	
Development of encoding, decoding skills (in non-roman alphabets)				/		
Development of basic reading skills				/		

	Y	S	N
Do the materials give special attention to phonological aspects of the language which are likely to be difficult for the English speaker?	/		
Do the materials give special attention to grammatical aspects of the language which are likely to be difficult for the English speaker?	/		
Do the materials present non-linguistic information (e.g. gestures, taboos) necessary for appropriate linguistic behavior?			/
Do the materials include guides for teaching?			/
Does implementation of the materials provide students with opportunities to hear, imitate and use the language?	/		
Are the materials to be learned broken down into appropriate segments which students can handle without undue fatigue or strain on their attention span?	/		
Are previously-learned items of structure, vocabulary and function overtly recycled in later units or lessons?	/		

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Basic Course Materials Evaluation - 2

Amharic
(lg)
Lesban Amharic Textbook
(text)

Do the materials appropriately integrate the use of English in class?

Y	S	N
		✓

Are the materials likely to be visually appealing to the student?

✓		
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Do the materials expose students to language material above their momentary level?

✓		
✓		

Do the materials enable the student to develop coping skills to handle language material above their momentary level?

Do the materials include a wide range of learning activities for the student?

	✓	
--	---	--

Are the materials considered successful by current users, if any?

✓		
---	--	--

In presenting the language, do the materials meet a variety of student needs, including affective and intellectual needs?

	✓	
--	---	--

Are lessons in the materials organized around functions to the exclusion of grammar?

		✓
		✓

Are lessons in the materials organized around grammar to the exclusion of functions?

Comments: I personally have used the book in teaching Amharic to a number of Swedish Volunteers as well as American Peace Corps Volunteers. The book is limited in terms of variety of activity essential to a well organized language teaching book. However, it is well constructed in terms of presentation of structure and dialogue.

Evaluator: H. Fuller HALL

Date: 6/13/85

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

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Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Meressa, Say...Amharic

Meressa, A. Say What You Want In Amharic.
Addis Ababa: Artistic Printers, 1968?

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: Basic course materials

Publication information: none. LC No. PJ 9213.M4

Intended users: English speakers

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional

Presentation of language: crude transcription

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: bad; transcription inaccurate, unexplained

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

6 grammar lessons, present arbitrary selection of paradigms, with English glosses

Sets of vocabulary/phrases; English presented first, with Amharic equivalents.

Vocabulary areas covered: numbers, days, months, transportation, tourist concerns.

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHMEREAL

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(15)
Mesera, Say... Amharic
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?			✓	
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?			✓ ✓ ✓	
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	•	•	✓	

• Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	
Advanced Courses	
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	
Reference Materials	
Dictionaries	

Electronic Aids	
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Comments: Very bad

Evaluator: H.F. HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

enter for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
FSI Amharic Basic Course

Obolensky, Serge, Debebow Zelelie, and
Mulugeta Andualem. Amharic Basic Course,
Vols. I and II. Washington, D.C.: U.
S. Department of State, 1964. Paper:
1054 p (Vols. numbered sequentially)

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: Basic course

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ9213.U5 Vols. 1 and 2. Sample
at CAL.

Intended users: beginning students of Amharic

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: audio-lingual, with dialogues chosen
on the basis of grammatical structure.

Presentation of language: transcription for first 59 units; Amharic script
thereafter

Physical quality of book: good

Editorial quality of target language: *excellent (although handwritten)*

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

1st volume: 50 units, each consisting of a set of dialogue sentences,
pronunciation and grammar notes, drills, and a narrative.

2nd volume: 9 additional units, each consisting of dialogue sentences,
drills, and narratives.

Introduction to the Amharic writing system

Reader, including 60 reading passages

Glossary (Amharic in romanization - Amharic script - English)

Vocabulary areas covered: Foreign Service concerns, classroom vocabulary,
lodgings, food and drink, transportation, time, health, clothes, weather,
Ethiopian geography, money, shopping, entertainment, religion, education,
government.

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHFSIA1

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(18)
Older Amharic Basic Course
(text) units 1-50

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of				
a. fulfillment of text goals?	☒			
b. clarity of organization?	☒			
c. lucidity of presentation?	☒			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒		

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☒
Advanced Courses	☒
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids	☐
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Comments: _____

Evaluator: _____ Date: _____

Amharic
(lg)
Obelody: Amharic Basic Course
(text)

BASIC COURSE MATERIAL EVALUATION

Areas in which the materials contribute to training to Proficiency Level 2:

	Oral			Reading		
	Y	S	N	Y	S	N
Development of ability to use the language in appropriate contexts	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Presentation, explanation of basic grammatical structures	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Development of accurate pronunciation	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Development of automaticity, fluency	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Development of appropriate range of vocabulary	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Presentation of cultural and functional information	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐
Development of encoding, decoding skills (in non-roman alphabets)	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Development of basic reading skills	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Do the materials give special attention to phonological aspects of the language which are likely to be difficult for the English speaker?

Y	S	N
☒	☐	☐

Do the materials give special attention to grammatical aspects of the language which are likely to be difficult for the English speaker?

Y	S	N
☒	☐	☐

Do the materials present non-linguistic information (e.g. gestures, taboos) necessary for appropriate linguistic behavior?

Y	S	N
☐	☐	☒

Do the materials include guides for teaching?

Y	S	N
☒	☐	☐

Does implementation of the materials provide students with opportunities to hear, imitate and use the language?

Y	S	N
☒	☐	☐

Are the materials to be learned broken down into appropriate segments which students can handle without undue fatigue or strain on their attention span?

Y	S	N
☐	☒	☐

Are previously-learned items of structure, vocabulary and function overtly recycled in later units or lessons?

Y	S	N
☒	☐	☐

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Basic Course Materials Evaluation - 2

Amharic

(1g)
Older: Amharic Basic Course
(text)

Do the materials appropriately integrate the use of English in class?

Y	S	N
☒	☐	☐

Are the materials likely to be visually appealing to the student?

☐	☒	☐
--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Do the materials expose students to language material above their momentary level?

☒	☐	☐
-------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Do the materials enable the student to develop coping skills to handle language material above their momentary level?

☒	☐	☐
-------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Do the materials include a wide range of learning activities for the student?

☐	☒	☐
--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Are the materials considered successful by current users, if any?

☐	☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

In presenting the language, do the materials meet a variety of student needs, including affective and intellectual needs?

☐	☒	☐
--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Are lessons in the materials organized around functions to the exclusion of grammar?

☐	☐	☒
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------

Are lessons in the materials organized around grammar to the exclusion of functions?

☐	☐	☒
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------

Comments: It is a reasonably good teaching material.

Evaluator: H.F. HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

INDIVIDUAL MATERIALS EVALUATION

Advanced Course Materials

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Eadie, Amharic Reader

Eadie, J. I. An Amharic Reader. Cambridge:
Cambridge University Press, 1924.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, Addis Ababa dialect

Type of text: Advanced course materials

Publication information: work done in 1913-14. LC No. PJ9214.E2 1924. Copy
at LC.

Intended users: English-speaking Amharic students

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: none; traditional grammar notes

Presentation of language: (non-standardized) Amharic script

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language:

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

Passages in Amharic script, with some grammar and usage notes, followed
by literal English translations of the passages. Passages on:
Stories (dictated; fables)
Descriptive essays
Recipes
Miscellaneous ads, letters, bureaucratic forms, legal papers
Proclamations
Poetry
Letters

Vocabulary areas covered: historical cultural

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHEADIA1

LARC staffer: BBR

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Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Eadie, An Amharic Reader
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?			☒	
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?	☒	☒ ☒		
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒	☒	

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: The Amharic of the material is dated. The reading material is arranged according to genre with no consideration of the needs of the language learner. This is as it should be, because the readings were collected to show samples of Amharic as it used in different genres.

Evaluator: H.F. HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Kebede, Amharic Newspaper Reader

Kebede, Mulugeta and John D. Murphy.
An Amharic Newspaper Reader. Kensington, MD: Dunwoody Press, 1984. Hard cover. 372 p.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified, presumably standard literary

Type of text: Advanced course materials

Publication information: not yet classified. 1985 price _____ Copy at CAL.

Intended users: "intermediate student of Amharic"

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: none

Presentation of language: Amharic script; vocabulary in script, transcription.

Physical quality of book: excellent

Editorial quality of target language: excellent

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

- Part I: 50 Amharic Newspaper Selections - selections of gradually increasing length and difficulty, with vocabulary listed in Amharic script, then phonetic transcription, then English gloss.
- Part II: English translations of the selections (intended for the student using the book without a teacher; literal translations rather than idiomatic)
- Part III: General Glossary - Amharic words listed in "traditional" order, with phonetic transcription and English gloss.

Vocabulary areas covered: politics, socialist government concerns, international events

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHKEBEAL

LARC staffer: BBR

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Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
2nd ed: Amharic Newspaper Reader
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	✓			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?		✓ ✓	✓	
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	•	•	✓	

• Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	
Advanced Courses	
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	
Reference Materials	
Dictionaries	

Electronic Aids	
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Comments: The stated purpose is not well served by the material in the book. It is not clear to me why the book was produced in the first place. It appears to be a haphazard and arbitrary collection of texts.

Evaluator: H. Fuller Hailu

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Ullendorff, Amharic-English
Chrestomathy

Ullendorff, Edward. An Amharic Chrestomathy, 2nd Ed. London: School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 1978. Paper. 141 p.

Specific language/dialect taught: literary Amharic

Type of text: Advanced course materials

Publication information: First edition published by Oxford U. Press in 1965.
1985 price _____. LC No. PJ9214.U4 1978. Copy at CAL.

Intended users: English-speaking students of Amharic

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: none

Presentation of language: Amharic script

Physical quality of book: excellent

Editorial quality of target language: excellent

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

Introduction - history of Amharic studies; very brief description of Amharic syntax and phonology; history of Amharic literature

Grammatical tables

Chrestomathy - passages from Amharic history, newspapers, official documents, translations (the Bible, Rasselas), modern fiction, and miscellaneous sources (letters, a passage on the Amharic language, a crossword puzzle)

Glossary - of vocabulary items found in the passages, Amharic-English

Solution to the Crossword Puzzle

Bibliography

Vocabulary areas covered: non-specific

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHULLEA1

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
(text) Amharic-English Dictionary

META - CRITERIA

	SOME-			COMMENTS
	YES	WHAT	NO	
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of				
a. fulfillment of text goals?	☒			
b. clarity of organization?		☒		
c. lucidity of presentation?	☒			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒	☒	

• Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids	☐
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Comments: The collection is eclectic. It is a good way of showing the variety of styles in Amharic; however, the material is not organized in any way that might be considered hierarchical in terms of levels of difficulty, thematic in terms of topic arrangement.

Evaluator: H. F. HEILU

Date: 6/13/85

INDIVIDUAL MATERIALS EVALUATION

Refresher-Maintenance Materials

INDIVIDUAL MATERIALS EVALUATION

Reference Materials

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Abraham, Amharic Principles

Abraham, R. C. The Principles of Amharic.
Ibadan: Institute of African Studies, 1968.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: reference grammar

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ9213.A2 1968. Sample at CAL.
1968 version is a revision of the original 1941 text.

Intended users: English speakers

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional

Presentation of language: in transcription

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: na

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

43 Chapters, on various points of Amharic grammar. First 3 chapters on sound system, rest on mixture of word formation and syntax. Appendices present paradigm, verb lists, etc.

Vocabulary areas covered: n/a

General comments: errors in analysis, etc., apparent even to the non-specialist

CPT page label: AMHABRAA1

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Abraham. Amharic Principles
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	SOME-			COMMENTS
	YES	WHAT	NO	
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of	☒			
a. fulfillment of text goals?	☒		☒	
b. clarity of organization?		☒		
c. lucidity of presentation?				
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒		

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☒
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: Abraham's book contains some surprisingly
insightful observations on the morphological structure
of Amharic. However, it contains hardly any syntactic or
phonological description.

Evaluator: H. Fuller HALL

Date: 6/13/85

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Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
 Materials Evaluation - 1985
 Individual Text Evaluation
 Reference Materials Evaluation - 1

Amharic
 (lg)
Abraham Amharic Principles
 (text)

REFERENCE MATERIAL EVALUATION

Does the date of the materials render them old-fashioned in
 a. presentation
 b. grammatical approach
 c. state of knowledge of the language

Y	S	N
☒	☐	☐
☒	☐	☐
☐	☒	☐

Are explanations clear to the non-specialist?

☐	☐	☒
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------

Are materials suitable for use by

- a. beginning students
- b. advanced students
- c. teachers/materials developers only

☐	☒	☒
☐	☒	☐
☐	☐	☐

Are materials arranged by

- a. grammatical category
- b. semantic category
- c. functional category

☐	☐	☐
☐	☐	☐
☐	☐	☐

Is the presentation of the language

- a. in its own script
- b. in romanization/transliteration
- c. in phonetic transcription

☐	☐	☐
☐	☐	☐
☒	☐	☐

Original intention of the materials:

- a. teaching materials
- b. pedagogical reference
- c. linguistic study

☐	☐	☒
☒	☐	☐
☐	☒	☐

Do the materials purport to describe the entire language?

☒	☐	☐
-------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Are the materials aimed at the English speaker?

☒	☐	☐
-------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Are the materials

- a. indexed
- b. cross-referenced

☒	☐	☐
☒	☐	☐

Are the materials illustrated with

- a. examples (sentences, phrases, words, etc)
- b. texts (paragraphs, passages, etc)

☒	☐	☐
☐	☐	☒

Are examples/texts

- a. literary quotations
- b. quotations from oral sources
- c. invented for purposes of discussion

☐	☐	☐
☒	☐	☐
☒	☐	☐

Evaluator: H. Fuller HALU

Date: 6/13/85

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Reference Material Evaluation - 2

Amharic
Abraham: Amharic Principles

Are examples/texts translated into English?

- a. literal translations?
b. idiomatic translations?

Y	S	N
☒	☐	☐
☒	☐	☐

Comments: As was indicated in the Meta-Criteria, Abraham's
grammar has some insightful observations. His grammatical
terminology is idiosyncratic and the format of presentation
is unclear.

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Armbruster, Amharic Grammar

Armbruster, C. H. Initia Amharica: An
Introduction to Spoken Amharic. Part
I Grammar. Cambridge: Cambridge Uni-
versity Press, 1908.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, Gojjam and Shoa dialects

Type of text: reference grammar

Publication information: accompanies the other volumes in the Initia Amharica
series. Out of print. LC No. PJ9213.A7 Pt. 1

Intended users: English-speaking people interested in Amharic

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional

Presentation of language: in Amharic script, with transcription

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: *excellent*

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

- Introduction - information on dialects, place in the Semitic family, etc.
- Phonology - phonetics, the Amharic alphabet, phonological processes
- Accidence - nouns, adjectives, the article
- The Pronoun - personal pronouns, disjunctive personal pronouns,
demonstratives, relatives, interrogatives, etc.
- The Numeral - cardinals, ordinals, fractions
- The Verb - forms, voice, mood, tense
- The Regular Triliteral Verb - inflections, tenses, paradigms
- Negative Conjugation
- Conjugation of derived verb forms
- The Preposition
- The Conjunction
- Syntax - parts of speech in sentences, word order, clauses, questions.
- Appendix: principal parts of verbs, in alphabetical order
- Index

Vocabulary areas covered: non-specific

General comments:

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(18)
Amharic Grammar
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	SOME- YES WHAT NO			COMMENTS
	YES	WHAT	NO	
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?	☒ ☒ ☒			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒	☒	

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☒
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: Good as reference material but not suitable for language teaching.

Evaluator: H. F. HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
 Materials Evaluation - 1985
 Individual Text Evaluation
 Reference Materials Evaluation - 1

Amharic
 (lg)
Amharic Grammar
 (text)

REFERENCE MATERIAL EVALUATION

Does the date of the materials render them old-fashioned in
 a. presentation
 b. grammatical approach
 c. state of knowledge of the language

Y	S	N
	✓	
✓		
✓		

Are explanations clear to the non-specialist?

		✓
--	--	---

Are materials suitable for use by

- a. beginning students
- b. advanced students
- c. teachers/materials developers only

		✓
		✓
		✓

Are materials arranged by

- a. grammatical category
- b. semantic category
- c. functional category

✓		
		✓
		✓

Is the presentation of the language

- a. in its own script
- b. in romanization/transliteration
- c. in phonetic transcription

✓		

Original intention of the materials:

- a. teaching materials
- b. pedagogical reference
- c. linguistic study

	✓	
✓		
	✓	

Do the materials purport to describe the entire language?

✓		
---	--	--

Are the materials aimed at the English speaker?

✓		
---	--	--

Are the materials

- a. indexed
- b. cross-referenced

✓		
✓		

Are the materials illustrated with

- a. examples (sentences, phrases, words, etc)
- b. texts (paragraphs, passages, etc)

✓		
		✓

Are examples/texts

- a. literary quotations
- b. quotations from oral sources
- c. invented for purposes of discussion

		✓
✓		
		✓

Evaluator: H.F. HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Reference Material Evaluation - 2

Amharic
Ambruster: Amharic Grammar

Are examples/texts translated into English?
a. literal translations?
b. idiomatic translations?

Y	S	N
☒	☐	☒
☐	☐	☐

Comments: Ambruster's grammar is of historical interest
today. For its time, it was one of the best grammars
of the Amharic language, primarily of the Addis Ababa
variety.

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Isenberg, Amharic Grammar

Isenberg, Charles William. Grammar of the
Amharic Language. London: Church Mission-
ary Society, 1842.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, probably Shoa dialect

Type of text: reference grammar

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ9213.I7. Copy available at LC.

Intended users: English speakers

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional

Presentation of language: Amharic script

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language:

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

Introduction: discussion of dialects, Amharic's place in the Semitic
language family

Phonology: description of the syllabary and its phonetic equivalents,
(includes an exercise for reading, with script, transcrip-
tion, inter-linear translation, and idiomatic translation)

Nouns: declensions, word formation

Verbs: conjugations, word formation

Adverbs

Prepositions

Interjections

Syntax: simple sentence structure, some description of compound, complex
sentences

Conversations: in Amharic script, with English translations (on colonial
subjects)(Praise be to Allah)

Exercises: readings, with English translations

Vocabulary areas covered: Bible topics

General comments: very traditional grammar

CPT page label: AMHISENB

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Isenberg, Amharic Language
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	SOME- YES WHAT NO			COMMENTS
	YES	WHAT	NO	
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?			☒	
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?	☒ ☒ ☒			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒	☒	

• Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: Although the book is intended to teach reading, and has some exercises for practice reading, the book is a grammatical description of mainly literary Amharic of a century and a half ago.

Evaluator: H. Fuller HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Leslau, Amharic Reference Grammar

Leslau, Wolf. An Amharic Reference Grammar,
Vols. I, II, III. Los Angeles: Department
of Near Eastern and African Languages, Uni-
versity of California, 1969.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: reference grammar

Publication information: produced under contract with HEW, Office of Education.
out of print. LC No. PJ9213.L416, 1 - 3. Sample at CAL.

Intended users: not specified

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: structural (focus on morphology and
word classes), with traditional terminology

Presentation of language: Amharic script with romanization

Physical quality of book: not bad, but dittoed pages have probably remained
readable because no one has used the book, and purple ink has not been
exposed. Alphabet charts have been photocopied from other (unspecified)
sources.

Editorial quality of target language: *excellent*

Editorial quality of English: Excellent

Overall organization of text:

Phonology - alphabet, list of sounds, phonological processes, syllable
structure

Morphology - parts of speech (in detail), various clauses, questions,
comparisons, conditionals.

Vocabulary areas covered: non-specific

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHLESLA1

LARC staffer: BBR

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

For Harris
(18)
Leslie, For Harris Reference
(text) *grammar*

META - CRITERIA

	SOME-			COMMENTS
	YES	WHAT	NO	
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of				
a. fulfillment of text goals?		☒		
b. clarity of organization?	☒			
c. lucidity of presentation?		☒		
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒	☒	

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: *I believe that the items in these parts were later incorporated in the Arabic Textbook. These items essentially are part of the grammatical base of the published Arabic Textbook.*

Evaluator: H. Fuller HALL

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Schramm, Practical Amharic Course

Schramm, Gene M. A Practical Course in the
Amharic Language. No. C/2. Washington, D.C:
National Security Agency, 1953.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: reference grammar with exercises

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ9023.S35.

Intended users: English-speaking students

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional

Presentation of language: Amharic script (beautifully handwritten)

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: *passable, handwritten*

Editorial quality of English: excellent; grammar presentation is technical

Overall organization of text:

Presentation of syllabary, with exercises

22 Lessons, on points of grammar, with translation exercises; some
vocabulary presented with English glosses

Vocabulary areas covered: exercises deal with 1950's political situations

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHSCHRA1

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Schramm, Practical Amharic Text
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?			☒ ☒ ☒	
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒	☒	

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: A survey treatment of Amharic Grammar with several
serious errors.

Evaluator: H. Fuller HALL

Date: 6/13/85

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Sutton, Amharic Guidelines

Sutton, Charles. Guidelines for Amharic Study. Debre Zeit: Peace Corps?, 1968.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: reference grammar/checklist

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ9213.5 S9 Mimeographed.

Intended users: Peace Corps volunteers

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional

Presentation of language: transcription, not explained (probably standard Peace Corps transcription system)

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: *passable*

Editorial quality of English: Excellent

Overall organization of text:

List of structures (with example sentences) for students to check as they are learned, with references to FSI's Amharic texts and others.

Vocabulary verb lists (63 verbs) arranged by semantic category, with grammatical/morphological information given.

Vocabulary areas covered: n/a

General comments: Book is a guide to inform learners as to their progress.

CPT page label: AMHSUTTB1

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
 Materials Evaluation - 1985
 Individual Text Evaluation
 Meta-Criteria

Amharic
 (18)
Sutton, Amharic Guidelines
 (text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?			☒ ☒ ☒	
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒	☒	

* Specific language-teaching context

-Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: unsuitable for learning/teaching purposes.

Evaluator: H. F. HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AHMARIC
Sutton, Amharic Verbs

Sutton, Charles. PCV's Handy Guide To
Amharic Verbs. Debre Zeit: Peace Corps?,
1968.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: reference grammar

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ0221.S9. Mimeographed.

Intended users: Peace Corps volunteers

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: paradigms

Presentation of language: transcription (not explained; probably standard
Peace Corps transcription system)

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: *passable*

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

Charts of verbs, grouped by morphological characteristics

Vocabulary areas covered: n/a

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHSUTTA1

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Sutton, Amharic Verbs
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?			☒	
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?			☒ ☒ ☒	
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒	☒	

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: Contains conjugations of samples from the various
Verb classes. I can hardly envision any serious use for this
book in a language learning/teaching context.

Evaluator: H.F. HAILEU

Date: 6/13/85

enter for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Titov, Amharic Grammar

Titov, Evgenii Grigorevich. The
Modern Amharic Language. Moscow:
Nauka Publishing House, Central
Department of Oriental Literature,
1976. Paper. 119 p.

Specific language/dialect taught: "state language of Ethiopia" (the Shoa dialect)

Type of text: reference grammar

Publication information: translated from Russian by E. H. Tsipan. out of print.
LC No. PJ9211.T513. Sample at CAL.

Intended users: linguists, students

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional

Presentation of language: transcription

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: *Good quality, well*

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

- Introduction - external history of Amharic, literature review
- Phonetics - pronunciation of consonants and vowels, "phonetical laws",
syllable structure, stress, script and spelling, word formation
- Morphology - parts of speech
- Syntax - structure of simple sentences, complex sentences
- Appendix - sample text (first in Amharic script, then in transcription;
idiomatic translation; vocabulary glosses and grammatical
notes)
- Footnotes

Vocabulary areas covered: n/a

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHTITOA1

LARC staffer: BBR

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Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Text: Amharic Grammar
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	SOME-			COMMENTS
	YES	WHAT	NO	
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?		☒ ☒ ☒		
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒	☒	

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids	☐
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Comments: The book can be considered a grammatical
treatise of Amharic. It is useful to the specialist
or the student interested in linguistics but not the
language learner.

Evaluator: H. F. HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Peace Corps Amharic Materials

U.S. Peace Corps. Amharic Language
Materials Given to the Ethiopia Trainees,
Appendix D. Undated typescript.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: grammar workbook (?)

Publication information: unknown. Sample at CAL.

Intended users: unknown

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional

Presentation of language: (handwritten) Amharic script

Physical quality of book: photocopied lessons, some entirely handwritten, some typed.

Editorial quality of target language: *passable, handwritten*

Editorial quality of English: Excellent

Overall organization of text:

34 lessons, each consisting of a grammatical point, then written exercises (in Amharic script) working with the grammar.

Vocabulary areas covered: non-specific; vocabulary chosen to represent grammatical point of lesson

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHPCA1

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(18)
Peace Corps Amharic Materials
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?				
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒		

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☒
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: The material seems to be a summary of a
draft of Leslan's Amharic Textbook. The book assumes
a mastery of the Amharic syllabary as well as some
portion of the basics of Amharic grammatical structure.

Evaluator: H. E. Hailu

Date: 6/13/85

enter for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Woldegabir, Amharic for Foreigners

Woldegabir, Semere. Amharic for Foreigners.
Rev. ed. Addis Ababa: n.p., 1969.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: reference grammar

Publication information: out of print. LC no. PJ9213.W6 1969. Copy at LC.

Intended users: English speakers

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional

Presentation of language: English-alphabet transcription

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: *na*

Editorial quality of English: non-native; minor mistakes in syntax

Overall organization of text:

17 lessons, presenting grammar points, with examples glossed into English,
and some exercises

Short phrase book: English first, then Amharic

Amharic numerals chart

Amharic alphabet chart

English-Amharic vocabulary (Amharic presented in transcription and script)

Vocabulary areas covered: non/specific

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHWOLDA1

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Arbanian
(lg)
Arbanian for foreigners
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?			☒	
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?			☒ ☒ ☒	
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒	☒	

• Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: Poorly conceived; poorly written; with no redeeming features.

Evaluator: H. F. HALL

Date: 6/13/85

INDIVIDUAL MATERIALS EVALUATION

Dictionaries

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Armbruster, English-Amharic
Dictionary

Armbruster, Carl Hubert. Initia Amharica:
An Introduction to Spoken Amharic. Part II:
English-Amharic Vocabulary with Phrases. Cam-
bridge: Cambridge University Press, 1910.
ca. 425 p.

Specific language/dialect taught: spoken Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: one-way dictionary

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ9213.A7 pt. 2. Sample at CAL

Intended users: English speakers

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: none

Presentation of language: in Amharic script, with phonetic transcriptions

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: *excellent*

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

- Preface
- Explanation of entries
- Explanation of phonetic transcription employed in glosses
- Entries (ca. 6800)
- Addenda - additional entries
- Appendix A - principal parts of verbs
- Appendix B - grammatical notes (referring to Part I of Initia Amharica)
- Appendix C - "Note on Prof. Guidi's Review of Part I"

Vocabulary areas covered: n/a/

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHARMB A1

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Amharic-English Amharic Dictionary
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?	☒			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☐	☒	☐	

• Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☒

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: The dictionary was prepared some 65 years ago at a
time when there were relatively few Amharic texts. The Amharic
equivalences for the English entries are almost totally oral elicited

Evaluator: H. Fuller HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

enter for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Armbruster, Amharic-English
Dictionary

Armbruster, Carl Hubert. Initia Amharica:
An Introduction to Spoken Amharic. Part III:
Amharic-English Vocabulary with Phrases, Vols.
1 and 2. Cambridge: Cambridge University
Press, 1920. 966 p. (volumes numbered sequen-
tially)

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: one-way dictionary

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ9213.A7 pt.3, vol. 1. Sample
at CAL.

Intended users: beginning English-speaking students of Amharic

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: none

Presentation of language: Amharic script with phonetic transcription

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: *excellent*

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

Preface

List of abbreviations used

Explanation of use of brackets and hyphens

Bibliographical abbreviations used

Phonological note, explanation of phonetic symbols used

Corrigenda

Entries - (ca. 6700 entries and sub-entries) listed in Amharic script fol-
lowed by phonetic transcription; part of speech; English equi-
valent; grammatical and derivational notes, often with Arabic
or Hebrew source (in Arabic or Hebrew alphabet).

Vocabulary areas covered: n/a

General comments: grammatical references to Initia Amharica

CPT page label: AMHARMBB1

LARC staffer: BBR

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Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Amharic: Amharic-English Dict.
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?		✓		
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?	✓ ✓ ✓			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	•	•	✓	

• Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	
Advanced Courses	
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	
Reference Materials	
Dictionaries	✓

Electronic Aids ☐

Comments: The book is a reasonably well constructed
dictionary. Its use for language teaching purposes is
very, very limited.
The book is well written, and the only
drawback is the lack of a glossary.

Evaluator: H. Fuller Hailu

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Isenberg, Amharic Dictionary

Isenberg, Charles William. Dictionary of the Amharic Language. in two parts. Amharic and English. English and Amharic. London: Church Missionary Society, 1841.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, probably Shoa dialect

Type of text: dictionary

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ9237.E7I8 1971. Original edition was microfilmed; LC copy is of that microfilm/

Intended users: English speaking students (missionaries) of Amharic

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: traditional

Presentation of language: in Amharic script

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language:

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

Amharic-English: ca. 7800 entries, which include head word in Amharic script, word class, gloss, Biblical references, some explanations

Supplement: List of Proper Names (names of Biblical personae, place names)

English-Amharic: ca. 10,000 entries, including English head words and Amharic glosses

Vocabulary areas covered: heavily Biblical

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHISENA

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(18)
Isaacs/Eng Amharic-English and
(text) English-Amharic Dictionary

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?			/	
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?	- - -			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	•	•	/	

• Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	
Advanced Courses	
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	
Reference Materials	
Dictionaries	

Electronic Aids	
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Comments: The dictionary is almost a century and a half old.
It's interesting for the scholar but of very little use to
the learner.

Evaluator: H. Fuller HAILU

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Leslau, Concise Amharic Dictionary

Leslau, Wolf. Concise Amharic Dictionary.
Amharic-English, English-Amharic. Berkeley
and Los Angeles: U. of California Press,
1976. 535 pp.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: dictionary

Publication information: out of print. LC NO. PU 9236.L4. Available at Georgetown University Library.

Intended users: English-speaking students of Amharic

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: none

Presentation of language: Amharic script and transcription

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: excellent

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

Introduction - guide to, explanation of entries

Amharic-English: ca. 4,000 entries - Amharic head word; transcription;
English equivalents (some cross-references). Phrases
including head word, with English translation

English-Amharic: ca. 12,510 entries - English head word, Amharic equivalent,
in Amharic script with transcription

Vocabulary areas covered: n/a

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHLESLE

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
 Materials Evaluation - 1985
 Individual Text Evaluation
 Meta-Criteria

(lg)

(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of a. fulfillment of text goals? b. clarity of organization? c. lucidity of presentation?	☒			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒		

* Specific language-teaching context

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☐

Electronic Aids	☐
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Comments: _____

Evaluator: _____

Date: _____

Does the date of the dictionary render it old-fashioned in

- a. vocabulary
b. grammatical approach
c. state of knowledge of the language
d. use of accepted modern standard script, orthography

Y	S	N

- a. etymologies
- b. definitions/explanations
- c. translation equivalents
- d. transliterations
- e. phonetic transcriptions of pronunciation
- f. grammatical information
- g. examples
- h. use of entry in phrases, idioms
- i. syllable division
- j. cross-references to other entries
- k. information on style levels
- l. information on regional, dialectal variation
- m. warnings about language learner errors
- n. cultural information

[illegible]

- a. literary quotations
- b. quotations from oral sources
- c. contrived for purposes of discussion

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Date: _____

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Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Leslau, Amharic Vocabulary

Leslau, Wolf. Amharic-English, English-
Amharic Vocabulary. Los Angeles: Uni-
versity of California at Los Angeles,
1963.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: dictionary

Publication information: out of print. LC No. RJ9237.B7L4

Intended users: Peace Corps volunteers

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: none

Presentation of language: Amharic script (handwritten)

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: *Excellent (although handwritten)*

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

Amharic-English word list (ca. 1675 words) with English equivalents
English-Amharic word list (ca. 1980 words) with Amharic equivalents

Vocabulary areas covered: basic vocabulary

General comments:

CPT page label: AMHLESB 1

LARC staffer: BBR

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Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(g)
Learn Amharic Vocabulary
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	SOME-			COMMENTS
	YES	WHAT	NO	
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of				
a. fulfillment of text goals?		☒		
b. clarity of organization?		☒		
c. lucidity of presentation?		☒		
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒		

* Specific language-teaching context:

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☒

Electronic Aids	☐
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Comments: This particular book of lessons is more like a
glossary than a dictionary. To my knowledge it
was never published.

Evaluation: H-F Hailer

Date: 6/13/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Description

AMHARIC
Leslau, English-Amharic Dictionary

Leslau, Wolf. English-Amharic Context
Dictionary. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz,
1973. 1503 pp.

Specific language/dialect taught: Amharic, dialect not specified

Type of text: dictionary

Publication information: out of print. LC No. PJ9237.B7 L43. Sample at CAL.

Intended users: English speakers

Format: book

Overall grammatical/pedagogical approach: none

Presentation of language: Amharic script

Physical quality of book: n/a

Editorial quality of target language: excellent

Editorial quality of English: excellent

Overall organization of text:

Introduction - detailed explanation of entry structure

Entries - ca. 18000 English head words; word class; Amharic equivalent;
illustrative English sentences with Amharic translation

Vocabulary areas covered: n/a

General comments: Useful dictionary for the student who can read Amharic script

CPT page label: AMHLESLE

LARC staffer: BBR

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation
Meta-Criteria

Amharic
(lg)
Review E-Amharic Dictionary
(text)

META - CRITERIA

	YES	SOME- WHAT	NO	COMMENTS
Is the language presented in the materials acceptable to an educated native speaker as representative of the text's intended dialect as it is currently spoken?	☒			
Are the materials of high quality, in terms of				
a. fulfillment of text goals?	☒			
b. clarity of organization?	☒			
c. lucidity of presentation?	☒			
Are the materials usable in language teaching contexts?	☒	☒		

• Specific language-teaching context:

Basic Courses	☐
Advanced Courses	☐
Refresher-Maintenance Programs	☐
Reference Materials	☐
Dictionaries	☒

Electronic Aids	☐
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Comments: Probably the best dictionary in its category

Evaluator: H. Fuller Arnold

Date: 6/20/85

Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Materials Evaluation - 1985
Individual Text Evaluation

Amharic
(18)
English-Amharic Dictionary
(text)

BILINGUAL DICTIONARY EVALUATION

Does the date of the dictionary render it old-fashioned in

- a. vocabulary
- b. grammatical approach
- c. state of knowledge of the language
- d. use of accepted modern standard script, orthography

Y	S	N
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		/

Included in entries:

- a. etymologies
- b. definitions/explanations
- c. translation equivalents
- d. transliterations
- e. phonetic transcriptions of pronunciation
- f. grammatical information
- g. examples
- h. use of entry in phrases, idioms
- i. syllable division
- j. cross-references to other entries
- k. information on style levels
- l. information on regional, dialectal variation
- m. warnings about language learner errors
- n. cultural information

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Are examples

- a. literary quotations
- b. quotations from oral sources
- c. contrived for purposes of discussion

Does the dictionary have an introduction or appendices presenting information of use to the language learner?

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Does the dictionary approach full coverage of the vocabulary of the language?

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Is the dictionary primarily aimed at the English speaker?

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Can the dictionary be used by beginning students of the language?

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Evaluator: HE HALL

Date: 6/28/85

Y = yes; S = somewhat; N = no

INDIVIDUAL MATERIALS EVALUATION

Electronic Materials